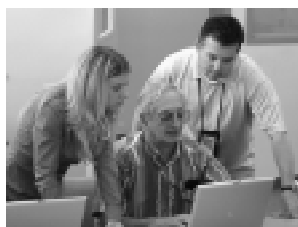


On the Road Again The Traveling CGA Academy Makes a Stop at DDTP

By Jessica Walter-Groft, DDC Command Affairs

The new CGA Academy developed by DDC's Commercial Activities Program Office made a stop at Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, PA (DDTP) in September.

The CGA Academy is a training program for Continuing Government Activities (CGAs)—the group of federal employees who monitor the performance of the performing activity after an A-76 competition decision. The training is designed to assist the CGA members in understanding their roles and responsibilities as they manage and assess the work of the performing activity.



*Providing On-Site Training Support
Alicia Davidson (left) and
Steve Disbrow (right) train
DDTP Accountable Officer
Walter Rosati on the use of the
CGA scheduling database.*

An effort designed to streamline operations and reduce costs, the A-76 process decides whether it is more efficient to retain mission work

in-house (with government employees) or to contract the work out to a company from the private sector. In the case of DDTP, the performing activity is a group of government employees.

"DDC's CGA Academy was one of the most comprehensive training sessions I've ever experienced. Mariann Meeks and her top notch group of instructors provided us the information and the resources we need to ensure continued top-quality support of the Warfighter in our new working environment," said LTC James O'Grady, USA, DDTP Commander.

DDTP was the second stop for the CGA Academy instructors who plan to be back on the road again soon, making a trip to Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi, TX (DDCT) where a tentative in-house A-76 decision was just announced on October 15.

New A-76 Circular Reinforces Benefit of Current DDC Practices

By Jessica Walter-Groft, DDC Command Affairs

Under the new A-76 circular, a Most Efficient Organization (MEO) must now be treated more like a contractor—a current standard operating procedure at the Defense Distribution Center (DDC).

"This is something we've always done," said Patrick McCormick, Director of DDC's Logistics Operations Division. "We work with our MEOs similarly to how we work with our contractors in that we meet with them to describe their obligations, and they are held accountable for their performance to ensure we provide seamless support to the Warfighter."

Recently, however, DDC took a more formal approach, informing the MEO of their obligations at a post-award conference.

After the MEO award at Defense Distribution Depot Puget Sound, WA (DDPW) was announced earlier this year, DDC held a post-award conference at which DDPW MEO personnel received a series of briefings outlining the MEO's roles and responsibilities as well as the penalties and benefits associated with their performance—just like the agreements DDC has with contractors that have won A-76 competitions for DDC distribution centers. "I found the post-award conference to be highly useful in addressing questions pertaining to how an MEO operates in this environment. Also, it introduced the new MEO leaders to some of their DDC headquarters counterparts," said CDR Nicholas Mato, SC, USN, DDPW Commander.

DDPW MEO personnel also signed a letter of obligation which is the internal equivalent of a contract award to a private sector business. By signing the letter, the MEO agreed to meet all acceptable performance levels while staying within the staffing and budget constraints in the management plan and in-house cost estimate. The MEO also has to comply with government performance monitoring activities including quality assurance, maintenance of "contract" files, and

notifying DDC of any changed conditions that would warrant changes to the obligation.

"The letter of obligation seeks to establish a relationship between the MEO and DDC that is closer to that DDC would have with a contractor. So, if the MEO doesn't hold up their end of the bargain, the letter of obligation explains that the business can be re-competed, but it also spells out the benefits of success including the award of additional option years beyond the initial contract for MEOs that are judged to be high performing organizations," said Lt Col Andrew Nixon, RLC, DDC's British Exchange Officer and part of the DDC J3/J4 Transition Team.

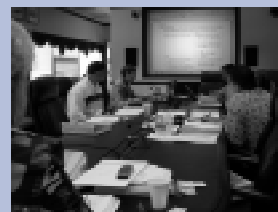
Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, PA (DDTP) and Defense Distribution Depot Corpus Christi, TX (DDCT) also recently completed competitions with in-house awards (tentative for DDCT) for which post-award conferences will be held.

DDC to Roll Out Next Swarm Module

As part of Swarm, a Defense Distribution Center (DDC) initiative for inventory improvement, DDC will roll out the next phase of interactive training in February 2005.

The first training module on Stock Readiness was recently completed as personnel from DDC's distribution centers participated in interactive video sessions designed to refresh the employees on the basics of maintaining stock readiness.

The next training module to be deployed to DDC's employees will be the Inventory training module and is scheduled to begin in February. DDC plans to present two more training modules—Receiving and Warehousing—in the spring.



During a recent technical review of the Inventory training module, personnel from DLA,

DTC and DDC's Inventory Integrity Team reviewed material to be covered in the training to ensure that it is presented in a comprehensive, understandable manner to cover the technical, operational and policy aspects of the DDC Inventory Integrity program including processes for location surveys, physical inventory counts, and research of discrepancies.